

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00

SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 IO-13 TRSE-00 OMB-01

ACDA-12 HA-05 /091 W

-----089782 141810Z /45

O 141710Z AUG 78

FM AMEMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 1003

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRAZZAVILLE 1147

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, CF

SUBJECT: ALLEGED COUP ATTEMPT

REF: BRAZZAVILLE 1144 (NOTAL)

1. PRIOR TO LUNCHTIME AUGUST 14, GABONESE AMBASSADOR MBAYE TOLD CHARGE THAT NAMES OF MOUZAKANI AND KOLELA HAD BEEN ADDED TO THAT OF FINA AS AMONG THOSE ARRESTED PREVIOUS DAY CHARGED WITH PLANNING COUP.

2. REGULAR 1:15 P.M. RADIO NEWSCAST AUGUST 14 POSTPONED. AT 2:00 P.M. , YHOMBY-OPANGO SPOKE STERNLY FOR FIFTEEN MINUTES. IT WAS IN SADNESS AND WITH INDIGNATION THAT CELEBRATIONS OF FIFTEENTH ANNIVERSARY OF CONGOLESE REVOLUTION WERE HERewith CANCELLED, HE BEGAN. REASON IS "EXTREMELY GRAVE" INTERNATIONAL IMPERIALIST PLOT WHICH HAS BEEN DISCOVERED AGAINST STATE SECURITY, OBJECTIVE OF WHICH WAS MASSACRE AD TERROR, INCLUDING POLITICAL ASSASSINATION OF CERTAIN LEADERS, FOLLOWED BY "GENERAL MASSACRE."

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3. WHILE NOT AT ALL SPECIFIC, YHOMBY DESCRIBED PREPARATIONS HAVING BEEN MADE BY (UNIDENTIFIED) MERCENARIES WITH MILITARY AIRCRAFT, WHOSE ACTIVITIES WERE OBSERVED BY STATE SECURITY. N.B.: ALTHOUGH ARRESTS (BRAZZAVILLE 1144 NOTAL) TOOK PLACE AUGUST 13, YHOMBY DESCRIBED HOSTILE MOVEMENTS LEADING TO THE ARRESTS AS HAVING OCCURRED 1:30A.M. TO 3:00A.M. AUGUST 14. (NO LOCATION GIVEN).

4. YHOMBY IDENTIFIED THOSE CONGOLESE RESPONSIBLE TO BE MOUZAKANI, KOLELA, MIAKASISSA, AND FINA, BACKED BY FORCES OF LOCAL REACTION AND "SEVERAL (UNNAMED) WESTERN AND AFRICAN CAPITALS. FINA WAS CHARACTERIZED AS "BIG CROOK", WORKING FOR FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE." THOSE NAMED WOULD RECEIVE NO PARDON, NO CLASSIC TRIAL , ADDED YHOMBY.

5. IN CLOSING, PRESIDENT CALLED FOR VIGILANCE AND STRICT BORDER CONTROLS, THREW BOUQUET TO USSR AS LEADER OF SOCIALIST REVOLUTION, AND COMPARED PLOT TO THOSE IN BENIN AND COMOROS.

6. MOST CONGOLESE EXPECT 6:00 P.M. CURFEW AUGUST 14. BRAZZAVILLE IS CALM (AS USUAL), WITH LITTLE TO NO MILITARY PRESENCE.

7. WE HAVE HEARD OF NO REPEAT NO STEPS BEING TAKEN VIS-A-VIS OUR LOCALS PRUSUANT TO REPORT REFTTEL. NOR IS ANY THREAT ANTICIPATED TO AMERICAN CITIZENS.

8. COMMENT: REMAINS TO BE SEEN WHETHER WHAT SOUNDS LIKE PRETEXT FOR POLITICAL HOUSECLEANING BY YHOMBY IN FACT RESULTS IN ONE.
END COMMENT.
KATZEN

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NNN

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